

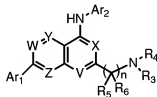
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Previously presented) A compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof, wherein:

V, X and Z are N;

W and Y are CR<sub>1</sub>;

R<sub>1</sub> is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl and mono- and di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl)amino;

R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are:

(i) each independently selected from:

(a) hydrogen;

(b) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkanone, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl ether, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl)C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl, (5- to 10-membered heterocycle)C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl and -(SO<sub>2</sub>)C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R<sub>b</sub>; and

(c) groups that are taken together with an R<sub>5</sub> or R<sub>6</sub> to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R<sub>b</sub>; or

(ii) taken together to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from  $R_b$ ;

$R_5$  and  $R_6$  are, independently at each occurrence:

- (i) each independently hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from  $R_b$ , or taken together with  $R_3$  or  $R_4$  to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic group that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from  $R_b$ ;
- (ii) taken together to form a keto group; or
- (iii) taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from  $R_b$ ;

$n$  is 1, 2 or 3;

$Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  are independently selected from phenyl or pyridyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from groups of the formula  $LR_a$ ;

$L$  is independently selected at each occurrence from a bond, O,  $S(O)_m$ ,  $C(=O)$ ,  $OC(=O)$ ,  $C(=O)O$ ,  $O-C(=O)O$ ,  $N(R_x)$ ,  $C(=O)N(R_x)$ ,  $N(R_x)C(=O)$ ,  $N(R_x)S(O)_m$ ,  $S(O)_mN(R_x)$  and  $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$ ; wherein  $m$  is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and  $R_x$  is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl;

$R_a$  is independently selected at each occurrence from: (i) hydrogen, halogen, cyano and nitro; and (ii)  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkynyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkyl ether, (4- to 10-membered heterocycle) $C_0$ - $C_8$ alkyl and mono- and di-( $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl)amino, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, amino, cyano, nitro, oxo,  $-COOH$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy, halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy, hydroxy $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, and mono- and di-( $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl)amino; and

$R_b$  is independently chosen at each occurrence from:

- (i) hydroxy, halogen, amino, aminocarbonyl, cyano, nitro, oxo and  $-COOH$ ; and
- (ii)  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ haloalkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ haloalkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkanoyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkoxycarbonyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkanoyloxy,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkylthio,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkyl ether, phenyl $C_0$ - $C_8$ alkyl, phenyl $C_0$ - $C_8$ alkoxy, mono- and di-( $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl)amino $C_0$ - $C_6$ alkyl, -

(SO<sub>2</sub>)C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl and (4- to 7-membered heterocycle)(C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl); each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy, hydroxyC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, and mono- and di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl)amino.

42. - 45. (Cancelled)

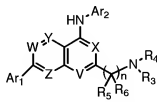
46. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein Z is N and W and Y are each CH.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein Ar<sub>1</sub> and Ar<sub>2</sub> are independently selected from phenyl and pyridyl, each of which is substituted with 0, 1 or 2 substituents.

49. (Currently amended) A compound or ~~pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 48, wherein:~~

of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof, wherein:

V, X and Z are N;

W and Y are CR<sub>1</sub>;

R<sub>1</sub> is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxycarbonyl and mono- and di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl)amino;

R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are:

(i) each independently selected from:

(a) hydrogen;

(b) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkanone, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl ether, (C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl)C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl, (5- to 10-membered heterocycle)C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl and -(SO<sub>2</sub>)C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R<sub>b</sub>; and

(c) groups that are taken together with an R<sub>5</sub> or R<sub>6</sub> to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R<sub>b</sub>; or

(ii) taken together to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R<sub>b</sub>;

R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are, independently at each occurrence:

(i) each independently hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from R<sub>b</sub>, or taken together with R<sub>3</sub> or R<sub>4</sub> to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic group that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R<sub>b</sub>;

(ii) taken together to form a keto group; or

(iii) taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R<sub>b</sub>;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

Ar<sub>1</sub> is phenyl or pyridyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl)amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy and haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy; and

Ar<sub>2</sub> is phenyl or pyridyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently selected from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl)amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, cyanoC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl ether, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkanoyl, -(SO<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>d</sub>, -N(R<sub>x</sub>)S(O)<sub>m</sub>R<sub>d</sub>, and -N[S(O)<sub>m</sub>R<sub>x</sub>]S(O)<sub>m</sub>R<sub>d</sub>; wherein m is 1 or 2, R<sub>x</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, and R<sub>d</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, amino, mono- or di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl)amino or a 5- to 10-membered, N-linked heterocyclic group, each of which R<sub>d</sub> is substituted with from 0

to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, amino, nitro, mono- and di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl)amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy and haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy; and

R<sub>6</sub> is independently chosen at each occurrence from:

- (i) hydroxy, halogen, amino, aminocarbonyl, cyano, nitro, oxo and -COOH; and  
(ii) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>haloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkanoyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl ether, phenylC<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl, phenylC<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkoxy, mono- and di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl)aminoC<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, - (SO<sub>2</sub>)C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl and (4- to 7-membered heterocycle)(C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl); each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy, hydroxyC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, and mono- and di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl)amino.

50. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 49, wherein:

Ar<sub>1</sub> is pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl or haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl; and

Ar<sub>2</sub> is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, cyanoC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl ether and groups of the formula -(SO<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>d</sub>, wherein R<sub>d</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl or haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl.

51. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 49, wherein:

Ar<sub>1</sub> is phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl or haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl; and

Ar<sub>2</sub> is phenyl or pyridyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, cyanoC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl ether and groups of the formula -(SO<sub>2</sub>)R<sub>d</sub>, wherein R<sub>d</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl or haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl.

52. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 49, wherein:

Ar<sub>1</sub> is pyridin-2-yl, 3-methyl-pyridin-2-yl, 3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl or 3-halo-pyridin-2-yl; and

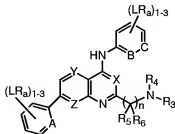
Ar<sub>2</sub> is phenyl, pyridin-2-yl or pyridin-3-yl, each of which is substituted at the *para*-position with halogen, cyano, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, *t*-butyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methyl-ethyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl, propanesulfonyl, propane-2-sulfonyl, trifluoromethanesulfonyl or 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl.

53. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 49, wherein:

Ar<sub>1</sub> is phenyl, 2-methyl-phenyl, 2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl or 2-halo-phenyl; and


Ar<sub>2</sub> is phenyl, pyridin-2-yl or pyridin-3-yl, each of which is substituted at the *para*-position with halogen, cyano, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, *t*-butyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-methyl-ethyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl, propanesulfonyl, propane-2-sulfonyl, trifluoromethanesulfonyl or 2,2,2-trifluoroethanesulfonyl.

54. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, having the formula:



wherein A, B, and C are each independently CH or N, wherein the ring represented by



the structure  is phenyl or pyridyl; Y is CH; Z is N, and wherein each "(LR<sub>a</sub>)<sub>1-3</sub>" represents from 1 to 3 substituents independently chosen from groups of the formula LR<sub>a</sub>.

55. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  are independently selected from (i) hydrogen and (ii)  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkynyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$ alkanone,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkanoyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkyl ether,  $(C_6-C_{10}aryl)C_0$ - $C_8$ alkyl, (5- to 10-membered heterocycle) $C_0$ - $C_8$ alkyl and  $-(SO_2)C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from  $R_b$ .

56. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 55, wherein  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  are independently selected from (i) hydrogen and (ii)  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkenyl, phenyl $C_0$ - $C_4$ alkyl, indanyl $C_0$ - $C_4$ alkyl, (5- to 6-membered heteroaryl) $C_0$ - $C_4$ alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl) $C_0$ - $C_4$ alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, amino,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl, halo $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkoxy and halo $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkoxy.

57. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 56, wherein  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  are independently selected from hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$ alkenyl, (5- to 7-membered heterocycle) $C_0$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$ alkyl ether, indanyl, benzyl, 1-phenyl-ethyl, 1-phenyl-propyl and 2-phenyl-ethyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen and  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, with the proviso that at least one of  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  is not hydrogen.

58. (Currently amended) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein one of  $R_3$  or  $R_4$  is taken together with an  $R_5$  or  $R_6$  to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocyclic group that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy, halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkanoyl,  $C_2$ - $C_4$ alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl and (4- to 10-membered heterocycle) $C_0$ - $C_8$ alkyl.

59. (Currently amended) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  are taken together to form a 4- to 10-membered heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, halogen, aminocarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, hydroxy $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy, halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkanoyl,  $C_2$ - $C_4$ alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl and (4- to 7-membered heterocycle) $C_0$ - $C_8$ alkyl.

60. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 59, wherein the 4- to 10-membered heterocycle is morpholinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, pyrrolidinyl or thiomorpholinyl.

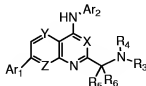
61. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein each  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  is independently selected from hydrogen and  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl.

62. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 61, wherein each  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  is hydrogen.

63. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein one  $R_5$  and one  $R_6$  attached to the same carbon atom are taken together to form a keto group.

64. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein  $n$  is 1.

65. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, having the formula:



wherein:



$Ar_1$  is phenyl or pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, cyano,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl or halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl;

$Ar_2$  is phenyl or pyridyl, unsubstituted or substituted with  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, cyano $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$ alkyl ether or a group of the formula  $-(SO_2)R_d$ , wherein  $R_d$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl or halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl;

$R_3$  and  $R_4$  are:

(a) independently selected from:

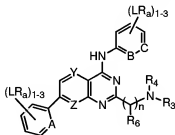
(i) hydrogen; and

(ii)  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$ alkenyl, (5- to 7-membered heterocycle) $C_0$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_6$ alkyl ether, indanyl, benzyl, 1-phenyl-ethyl, 1-phenyl-propyl and 2-phenyl-ethyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl and halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl; or

(b) taken together to form a 5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl and halo $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl; and

$R_5$  and  $R_6$  are independently selected from hydrogen and  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl.

66. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 65, having the formula:



wherein:

A, B, and C are each independently CH or N, wherein the ring represented by the



structure is phenyl or pyridyl;

Y is CH;

Z is N;

R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are:

(a) independently selected from:

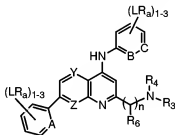
(i) hydrogen; and

(ii) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkenyl, (5- to 7-membered heterocycle)C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl ether, indanyl, benzyl, 1-phenyl-ethyl, 1-phenyl-propyl and 2-phenyl-ethyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl and haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl; or

(b) taken together to form a 5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl and haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl; and


each R<sub>6</sub> is independently hydrogen or methyl.

67. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 65, having the formula:



wherein:

A, B, and C are each independently CH or N, wherein the ring represented by the

structure  is phenyl or pyridyl;

Y is CH;

Z is N;

R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are:

(a) independently selected from:

(i) hydrogen; and

(ii) C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkenyl, (5- to 7-membered heterocycle)C<sub>0</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkyl ether, indanyl, benzyl, 1-phenyl-ethyl, 1-phenyl-propyl and 2-

phenyl-ethyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl and haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl; or

(b) taken together to form a 5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from hydroxy, cyano, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl and haloC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl; and  
each R<sub>6</sub> is independently hydrogen or methyl.

68. (Cancelled)

69. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein the compound has an IC<sub>50</sub> value of 100 nanomolar or less in a capsaicin receptor calcium mobilization assay.

70. (Previously presented) A compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, wherein the compound has an IC<sub>50</sub> value of 10 nanomolar or less in a capsaicin receptor calcium mobilization assay.

71. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising at least one compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, in combination with a physiologically acceptable carrier or excipient.

72. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 71 wherein the composition is formulated as an injectible fluid, an aerosol, a cream, a gel, a pill, a capsule, a syrup or a transdermal patch.

73. - 87. (Cancelled)

88. (Withdrawn) A method for treating pain in a patient, comprising administering to a patient suffering from pain a therapeutically effective amount of at

least one compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrate thereof according to claim 41, and thereby alleviating pain in the patient.

89. – 91. (Cancelled)

92. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 88, wherein the patient is suffering from neuropathic pain.

93. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 88, wherein the pain is associated with a condition selected from: postmastectomy pain syndrome, stump pain, phantom limb pain, oral neuropathic pain, toothache, postherpetic neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, reflex sympathetic dystrophy, trigeminal neuralgia, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, meralgia paresthetica, burning-mouth syndrome, bilateral peripheral neuropathy, causalgia, neuritis, neuronitis, neuralgia, AIDS-related neuropathy, MS-related neuropathy, spinal cord injury-related pain, surgery-related pain, musculoskeletal pain, back pain, headache, migraine, angina, labor, hemorrhoids, dyspepsia, Charcot's pains, intestinal gas, menstruation, cancer, venom exposure, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease and trauma.

94. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 88, wherein the patient is a human.

95-105. (Cancelled)